

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PERP, PBOR, SG, UN
SUBJECT: SENGHOR ON AFRICAN SECURITY

REF: DAKAR 3722

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT SENGHOR, IN AN ADDRESS TO THE
NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF SENEGALESE SOCIALIST PARTY, JULY 15,
ATTACKED CUBA'S ROLE IN ANGOLA, DEFENDED HIS DECISION TO
SEND SENEGALESE TROOPS TO ZAIRE; REPEATED HIS PROPOSAL FOR
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THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE (CSCE)
TO NEGOTIATE AN ACCORD BANNING EURO-AMERICAN MILITARY
INTERVENTION IN AFRICA, AND ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO
PROPOSE A RESOLUTION AT THE NEXT UNGA CALLING ON THE STATES
OF LATIN AMERICA, ASIA AND OCEANIA TO ABSTAIN FROM
INTERVENTION IN AFRICA.

2. ON JULY 15, PRESIDENT SENGHOR ADDRESSED THE NATIONAL PS (SOCIALIST PARTY) COMMITTEE. ALTHOUGH HIS SUBJECT WAS TECHNICALLY THE WATER PROBLEM IN SENEGAL, HE TALKED MAINLY ABOUT AFRICAN SECURITY.

3. ATTACKING SOVIET/CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA, SENGHOR STRESSED THAT THE CUBANS WERE NOT INVITED BY A LEGITIMATE INDEPENDENT GOVERNMENT BUT BY A MINORITY FACTION (MPLA) IN A CIVIL WAR. CUBAN INVOLVEMENT, SAID SENGHOR, TIPPED THE BALANCE AGAINST UNITA WHICH WOULD HAVE HAD THE BROADEST BASE OF SUPPORT IN CASE OF ELECTIONS. SENGHOR ADDED THAT "THIS WAS THE FIRST INTERVENTION BY NON-AFRICAN STATES IN THE PURELY INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF AN AFRICAN STATE."

4. THE PRESIDENT, IN APPARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE UNPOPULARITY OF SENEGAL'S DECISION TO AID THE MOBUTU REGIME IN ZAIRE, NOTED THAT SEVERAL YEARS AGO, "THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE EXPELLED SENEGALESE IMMIGRANTS UNDER CONDITIONS WHICH TO SAY THE LEAST WERE INHUMANE." BUT, SENGHOR SAID, WHEN SENEGAL SENT A BATTALION TO ZAIRE "IT IS THE INDEPENDENCE OF SENEGAL THAT WE DEFEND." IMPLICATION IS THAT SENGHOR DID NOT SEND TROOPS TO ZAIRE TO PROP UP A PARTICULAR REGIME. "ONLY ONE THING CAN SAVE AFRICA," HE SAID, " AND THAT IS THE WILL TO BE REALLY INDEPENDENT."

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5. SENGHOR ALSO TOOK A SWIPE AT THE USSR NOTING THAT MOSCOW HAD MADE POSSIBLE GREAT PROGRESS IN THE "ANCIENT COLONIES OF THE CZARS," BUT "IT HAD NOT GIVEN THEM WHAT IS ESSENTIAL: INDEPENDENCE."

6. SENGHOR ALSO REITERATED HIS PROPOSAL MADE AT THE MAY 12-13 SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL (SI) BUREAU MEETING IN DAKAR THAT THE CSCE NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT PROHIBITING THE POWERS OF EURO-AMERICA FROM MILITARY INTERVENTION IN AFRICA.

7. IN A PROPOSAL OBVIOUSLY AIMED AT CUBA, SENGHOR ANNOUNCED HE WOULD CALL FOR, AT THE NEXT UNGA, A BROADER BAN ON FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN AFRICA BY EXTENDING HIS PROPOSED BAN FROM JUST EURO-AMERICAN POWERS IN THE CSCE FORUM, TO THE STATES OF ASIA, OCEANIA, AND LATIN AMERICA. SENGHOR CLOSED BY EXPRESSING HIS HOPE THAT THE "SO-CALLED PROGRESSIVE" AFRICAN STATES WOULD SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE TO DEFEND "OUR MOST PRECIOUS GOOD: THE INDEPENDENCE OF ALL CONTINENT AS WELL AS THAT OF EACH AFRICAN STATE."

8. COMMENT: THIS SPEECH SHOWS SENGHOR'S CONTINUING PRE-OCCUPATION WITH SECURITY CONCERNS AND SOVIET/CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA. SENGHOR'S DETAILED DEFENSE OF SENEGAL'S ROLE IN ZAIRIAN PEACEKEEPING ALSO SHOWS HIS SENSITIVITY OF DOMESTIC CRITICISM. ALTHOUGH HIS SPEECH IS A POINT BY POINT REFUTATION OF THE CRITICISM OF THE NON-RECOGNIZED RASSEMBLEMENT NATIONALE DEMOCRATIQUE (RND), A LEFTIST INTELLECTUAL POLITICAL GROUPING HEADED BY RESPECTED UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR CHEIKH ANTA DIOP, IT ALSO SHOWS SENGHOR'S CONCERN THAT THE CRITICISM AT HOME OF SENEGAL'S FOREIGN POLICY HAS A BROADER BASE.
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